

**GEORGIA BOARD OF
SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY
Teleconference Board Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2013**

The Georgia Board of Speech Language Pathology and Audiology met on Monday, November 18, 2013, at 11:00 a.m., by teleconference at the Professional Licensing Boards Division, located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia.

Board Members Present:

Melanie Gilley, SLP, Chair
Erica Chatelain, SLP, Vice Chair
Melanie Hudson, SLP
Miranda Pritcher-Ross, AUD
Holly Kaplan, AUD

Board Members Absent:

Robin Alverson, AUD
Lauren Wright, Consumer Member

Administrative Staff Present:

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director
Hope Harrison, Board Support Specialist

Office of Attorney General:

Janet Wray, Assistant Attorney General

Ms. Gilley, Chair established that a quorum of the Board was present and called the Board meeting to order at 11:16 a.m.

Agenda: Approved as presented.

Rules – Adoption of Proposed Amendments:

- 609-7-.01 C. P. E. Requirements

609-7-.01 Continuing Professional Education Requirements.

- (1) The purpose of continuing education is to maintain and enhance the professional competency of speech-language pathologists and audiologists licensed to practice in Georgia for the protection of the health and welfare of the people of the State of Georgia.
- (2) A continuing education unit (CEU) is defined as ten (10) clock hours of continuing professional education. CEU hours may not be carried over from one licensure biennium to the next.
- (3) In order to renew a license, the licensee must obtain a minimum of 2.0 CEUs (20 clock hours) during each biennium period of licensure.
- (4) Not more than ~~40~~ 1.0 CEUs (10 clock hours) can be acquired in any one 24 hour period.
- (5) Individuals who hold licenses in both Speech-Language Pathology and in Audiology shall be required to complete a minimum of 2.0 CEUs in Speech-Language Pathology and 2.0 CEUs in Audiology.
- (6) CEU requirements for newly approved license holders will be pro-rated during the first biennium licensure period as follows:
 - (a) Licensees whose applications are approved during the first six (6) months of the biennium will be required to accrue two (2) CEUs.
 - (b) Licensees approved during the second six (6) months of the biennium will be required to accrue one and one half (1 ½) CEUs.

- (c) Licensees approved during the third six months of the biennium will be required to accrue one (1) CEU.
- (d) Licensees approved during the final six (6) months are not required to accrue CEUs until the following licensure biennium.
- (7) CEU hours must be in educational experiences directly related to the scope of practice of the licensee, and must be designed to increase the competence of the licensee in the area of licensure. Examples of activities that may provide CEU hours include:
 - (a) Scientific and educational lectures, workshops, or seminars;
 - (b) College courses taken for credit or through official audit:
 - 1. College course credit shall be deemed to be equivalent to CEUs as follows: One Semester Hour = 1.5 CEUs; One Trimester Hour = 1.3 CEUs; One Quarter Hour = 1.0 CEU.
 - (c) Presentations by licensees: 0.5 CEUs (5 clock hours) will be awarded for the presentation of any lecture, workshop or seminar. A licensee may only receive credit for one presentation per biennium.
 - (d) Audio and video conferences, online courses, and teleconferences; and self-study courses accompanied by an examination by the CEU provider.
 - (e) Praxis Examination in the area of licensure.
 - 1. Two (2.0) CEUs will be awarded for successful completion of the Praxis with a score of 650. Successful completion of this examination during the biennium will satisfy all CEU requirements for the license during that biennium.
 - 2. The Board approved national examination results that are used in order to receive a license may not be used again for the renewal of that license.
 - 3. A person who is licensed in both Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology must pass tests in both Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology to meet all continuing education requirements. If the licensee passes the examination in only one area, s/he must obtain 2.0 additional CEUs in the area for which the examination was not passed.
 - (f) Not more than two (.2) CEUs of the required twenty (2.0) per biennium will be awarded for courses in the area(s) of ethics, record-keeping, documentation, Georgia laws and rules, Medicaid regulations and/or Medicare regulations.
- (8) Documentation of CEUs:
 - (a) Each licensee shall maintain for three (3) years their own record of the CEU activities that they completed. The Board will not maintain CEU files for licensees.
 - (b) Licensees shall retain documentation of their continuing education activities and shall not send them to the Board Office unless the Board requests the licensee to do so.
 - (c) Licensees shall attest on their biennial licensure renewal application that they have satisfied the CEU requirements as set out above.
 - (d) False attestation of satisfaction of CEU requirements on a renewal application shall subject the licensee to disciplinary actions, including revocation.
- (9) Method of Auditing CEU's:
 - (a) The Board will audit a random fixed percentage of applications. Licensees who are audited will be required to document the CEU activities. Required documentation is a certificate or proof of attendance which includes the sponsoring agency, the licensee's name, the date of the activity, the length of the session, and either the signature of a representative from the sponsoring agency or official certification by the sponsoring agency. A description of the CEU activity may be required if the title of the activity does not clearly state the content of the CEU activity. If the licensee attends a multi-session

CEU activity, as in a state or national convention or meeting, additional required information includes a specific listing of each session, the length of each session, and a description of each session if the title does not clearly state the content of the session.

(b) Current members of the Board, who are licensees of the Board, shall be audited for each biennium that they serve on the Board.

(c) Delinquent renewals shall be subject to the CEU audit for that biennium.

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-44-6, 43-44-8, and 43-44-11

Dr. Kaplan motioned, Ms. Chatelain seconded, and the Board voted to adopt Rule 609-7-.01 C. P. E. Requirements as posted for the minimum 30 days. None opposed, motion carried.

- 609-8-.03 Reinstatement

609-8-.03 Reinstatement.

(1) Expired License.

(a) The failure to late renew an expired license within three (3) months of its expiration shall have the same effect as a surrender or revocation and ~~shall be subject to Rule 609-8-.03~~ the applicant for reinstatement shall meet the same conditions provided in Rule 609-8-.03(2) regarding reinstatement of a surrendered or revoked license.

(b) An expired license may be reinstated following the expiration date and late renewal period by submission of a completed reinstatement application and payment of a reinstatement penalty fee as set by the Board (see Fee Schedule). Such persons must also provide evidence of having met continuing professional education as set out in Rule 609-7-.01. Reinstatement shall be at the discretion of the Board.

(2) Reinstatement of a Surrendered or Revoked License. A person applying for reinstatement must submit the following:

(a) If **12 months** or less from the date the license was surrendered or revoked, submit a completed reinstatement application to the Board, provide documentation of having completed thirty (30) contact hours or 3.0 CEUs directly related to the scope of practice of the license within two (2) years preceding the date of application, and pay to the Board the reinstatement fee as set by the Board.

(b) If greater than 12 months but no more than **24 Months** from the date the license was surrendered or revoked, submit a completed reinstatement application to the Board, provide documentation of having completed forty (40) contact hours or 4.0 CEUs directly related to the scope of practice of the license within two (2) years preceding the date of application, and pay to the Board the reinstatement fee as set by the Board.

(c) If greater than 24 months but no more than **36 Months** from the date the license was surrendered or revoked, submit a completed reinstatement application to the Board, provide documentation of having completed fifty (50) contact hours or 5.0 CEUs directly related to the scope of practice of the license within two (2) years preceding the date of application, and pay to the Board the reinstatement fee as set by the Board.

(d) If 36 months or greater from the date the license was surrendered or revoked, the person may not have the license reinstated unless the person meets one of the following requirements:

1. Submit a completed reinstatement application to the Board and show that the person has:

(i) Retaken and passed the PRAXIS exam within ~~one~~ two (2) years of the date of the application;

(I) If you have maintained current American Speech-Language-Hearing (ASHA) certification or American Board of Audiology (ABA) certification since the expiration date(s) of your Georgia license, you will not be required to re-take and pass the National Exam (PRAXIS). You must contact ASHA and/or ABA to request a Verification of Certification Letter be mailed directly to the Board. If the date of initial certification is beyond two (2) years, the applicant must show recency of study as specified in the Board Rules. The Board will review the application and the AHSA or ABA documentation. If the eligibility requirements as defined in Georgia laws and rules are met, the applicant may be issued a license. American Academy of Audiology (AAA) membership does not satisfy the requirements of this rule.

(ii) Obtained fifty (50) contact hours or 5.0 CEUs directly related to the scope of practice of the license within two (2) years preceding the date of application; The continuing education must meet the approval of the Board;

(iii) Paid the reinstatement fee as set by the Board (see Fee Schedule); and

(iv) Met the requirements for the license in effect on the date of the application; OR

2. Submit a completed reinstatement application to the Board and show that the person has:

(i) A current license from another state or country with equivalent standards to the current Georgia Act with the verification from the other state or country;

(ii) Practiced the licensed profession in such other state(s) or country for a period of at least

2 years, and practiced for a period of at least two (2) years of the previous five (5) years from preceding the date of the reinstatement application;

(iii) Obtained fifty (50) contact hours or 5.0 CEUs directly related to the scope of practice of the license within two (2) years preceding the date of application; ~~and~~ The continuing education must meet the approval of the Board;

(iv) Paid the reinstatement fee as set by the Board (see Fee Schedule).

~~3.~~ (3) A surrendered or revoked license is subject to reinstatement at the discretion of the Board. The Board may restore or reissue a license and, as a condition thereof may impose any disciplinary action.

Authority: O.C.G.A. Sections 43-1-4, 43-1-7, 43-1-19, 43-44-6, 43-44-7, 43-44-8, 43-44-9, 43-44-11 and 43-44-13.

Dr. Hudson motioned, Dr. Pritcher-Ross seconded, and the Board voted to adopt Rule 609-9-.03 Reinstatement as posted for the minimum 30 days. None opposed, motion carried.

Dr. Kaplan motioned, Ms. Chatelain seconded, and the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-4, 43-1-7, 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-44-6, 43-44-8, 43-44-9, 43-44-11, and 43-44-13 and that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-4, 43-1-7, 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-44-6, 43-44-8, 43-44-9, 43-44-11, and 43-44-13 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C), and (D). The formulation and adoption of these rules will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed in the field of speech language pathology and audiology.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Minutes recorded by:

Hope Harrison, Board Support Specialist

Minutes reviewed and edited by:

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director

MELANIE GILLEY

Chair

BRIG ZIMMERMAN

Executive Director

These minutes were approved on: January 6, 2014